deals with them under the provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

Smuggling of Petrol and Kerosene

4328. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been any increase in the incidents of smuggling of fuel such as petrol and kerosene by LTTE terrorists from Tamil Nadu to Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to check the smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Customs authorities have detected cases of smuggling of petroleum products by smugglers/fishermen from the coast of Tamil Nadu to Sri Lanka. The quantity and value of petrol, kerosene, diesel and other petroleum products seized by Customs authorities during the last 3 years are given in the table below. However, since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not possible to say whether such smuggling of fuel has increased.

Description	1990		1991		1992 (upto J ul	
	Qty. in ltrs.)	Value (Rs. in thousands)	Qty. in ltrs.)	Value (Rs. in thousands)	Qty. in ltrs.)	Value (Rs in thousands)
Petrol	2,645	33·0	5,275	65·8	735	11·8
Kerosene	2,767	8·2	1,790	5·7	1,000	4.8
Diesel	49,035	23·0	14,190	78·0	3,515	24·3
Other Petroleum Products . .					2,730	62·9

(c) The Customs field formations are alert against smuggling activities including that of petroleum products along the coast of Tamil Nadu. The Central Reserve Police Force, the Navy and the Coast Guard have also been deployed in the area. Close coordination is being maintained among all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling including that of petroleum products.

Minorities Cooperative Banks Operational in the country

4329. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Cooperative Banks of the Miorities functioning in the country;

(b) what is the financial position of these Minorities Cooperative Banks;

(c) whether Government propose to grant special subsidy to Minorities Cooperative banks; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to encourage the establishment of minorities cooperative banks on the lines of minorities Financial Development Cooperation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As per the